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SUBJECT:

Crisis Planning Notice - - P G S (U)

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 2, 1984

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: Crisis Planning Notice -- Persian Gulf
Situation (TS)

As a result of the 22 December 1983 meeting of the National Security Planning Group (NSPG) on the worsening situation in the Persian Gulf area, the President has decided that the United States Government should prepare contingency plans for active crisis prevention, or in the event of escalation, crisis containment. He has directed, therefore, that a National Plan of Action (NPA) be prepared in accordance with the objectives of National Security Decision Directive (NSDD) 114 and the attached guidance (Tabs A and B). (TS)

You are requested to prepare departmental plans for integration in the NPA, and provide these plans by 8 February 1984. Specific planning responsibilities are indicated in the attached pre-planning guidance. As per the Timetable at Tab B, a CPPG meeting will be held to review these plans on 24 February 1984. (TS)


Robert C. McFarlane

Attachments

Tab A - Crisis Planning Guidance
Tab B - Planning Timetable

cc: The Vice President

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Iran-Iraq

Crisis Pre-Planning Guidance

25 January 1984

The possibility of a crisis in the Persian Gulf significantly affecting U.S. interests, continues as a serious policy concern. National planning efforts to prepare for this possibility have already included a number of agencies and have generated several meetings and publications. The salient policy milestones to date are:

13 October: SNIE 34/36.2-83. "Iran-Iraq War: Increased Threat to Persian Gulf Oil Exports;" outlined the complexity of the problem.

24 October: Crisis Pre-Planning Group (CPPG) meeting; approved planning document, "Readiness to Respond to a Crisis in the Persian Gulf."

26 November: NSPG Meeting: President issued NSDD-114, "US Policy Toward the Iran-Iraq War;" issued as a result of the CPPG.

22 December: National Security Planning Group (NSPG) meeting; presented the issue to the President.

13 January: Establishment of Iran-Iraq Energy Emergency Working Groups to develop an inter-agency plan of action for dealing with any oil emergency resulting from an escalation of hostilities.

December/January: Diplomatic and military consultations with allies and Gulf states; directed by NSDD-114.

A consensus was reached at the NSPG that a Persian Gulf crisis would be more complex than originally outlined in NSDD-114, and that all planning and policies must address that complexity.

Both Iran and Iraq continue to prepare to escalate the war. Most recently, Iraq deployed its Super Etendard strike aircraft to a southern location, thus increasing the likelihood of their use in a variety of Persian Gulf operations. An escalation of the war into the Persian Gulf will likely pose significant dangers to American interests. Because of these potential dangers, it is necessary that we continue to develop and coordinate coherent policies to deal with the situation. Departments and agencies and their responsibilities for this aspect of the planning effort are the following:

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Department of State (Diplomatic Strategy, Plans, and Options and International Energy Policy)
Department of the Treasury (International Financial Strategy, Plans, and Options)
Department of Defense and Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff (Military Strategy, Plans and Options)
Department of Energy (Oil Disruption Strategy, Plans, and Options)
Central Intelligence Agency (current intelligence updates and estimates)

The guidance listed below should be based on the full range of possible escalatory actions outlined in SNIE 34/36.2-83 of 13 October 1983, within the requirements established by NSDD-114, and where appropriate, the results of the recent diplomatic and military consultations. All plans should be based on the following:

1. The U.S. interest in the Iran-Iraq War is to see the conflict end as soon as possible and without U.S. military involvement.
2. U.S. policy should be to work to deter an escalation of the war and contain the disruptions if deterrence fails.
3. Regardless of how the Iran-Iraq War develops, the U.S. should use the crisis to strengthen its relationships with the Gulf states.
4. With little possibility of improving relations with the current Iranian regime, the U.S. should use this opportunity to improve relations with Iraq.
5. U.S. contingency plans should identify the political, military, and economic costs of the various options proposed to the President.
6. Events in the region require that U.S. actions be taken to combat terrorism, especially Iranian-sponsored terrorism.

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7. In the event of threatened or actual disruptions of shipping or oil production in the Persian Gulf, U.S. policy should be designed to prevent panic buying and public hysteria at home and abroad and to ensure that military energy requirements are adequately met.
8. The planning process should provide mechanisms to take into account the independently-taken actions and commitments of other affected nations.
9. U.S. policy should prevent, to the degree possible, Soviet exploitation of the situation.
10. U.S. policy should provide mechanisms to ease LDC financial pressures caused by an interruption of Persian Gulf oil exports.

All plans should be completed by 8 February 1984. Additional tasks will be delegated as the development of the National Plan of Action continues. All tasks should be completed as components that will be integrated into the overall National Plan.

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Iran-Iraq Planning Timetable*

Tab B

STEP	TASK	AGENCY	BEGIN	DATE	END
<u>Planning Phase</u>					
1	Hold Crisis Pre-Planning Group Meeting	CPPG			Oct. 24
2	Issue NSDD on U.S. Policy Toward the Iran-Iraq War	President			Nov. 28
3	Hold NSPG Meeting on Expanded Iran-Iraq War	NSC			Dec. 22
4	Establish Energy Emergency Working Groups	Energy, State			Jan. 13
5	Conduct Political and Military Consultations with States in the Region	State, Defense	Dec. 1983		Jan. 1984
6	Crisis Planning Notice (Planning Guidance)	National Security Advisor			Jan. 27
7	Draft Contingency Plans	Defense, State, CIA, Treasury, Energy	Jan. 27		Feb. 8
8	Review Contingency Plans	NSC	Feb. 8		Feb. 10
9	Draft complementary (public diplomacy, legislative strategy, congressional strategies) plans based upon approved departmental plans (Step 5).	Justice, OMB, NSC, and appropriate legislative affairs and public diplomacy offices	Feb. 10		Feb. 17
10	Integrate NPA	NSC	Feb. 17		Feb. 22
11	Review NPA and make recommendations to SSG	CPPG			Feb. 24
12	Evaluate NPA and make recommendations to President	SSG			Feb. 27
13	Hold NSPG Meeting to review NPA	NSC			Feb. 29
<u>Implementation Phase</u>			Mar. 1		

*The timetable assumes events in the region will not compress the schedule.

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